

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2440

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S E C R E T USNATO 3432

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, NATO, PO

SUBJ: MBFR: OPTION III: SYG CALLS MEETING OF PORTUGUESE GROUP  
JUNE 27

REF: A) STATE 19705 DTG APRIL 75 (NOTAL); B) STATE 129765 (NOTAL);  
C) STATE 133047 (NOTAL); D) STATE 142102 (NOTAL)

1. SYG LUNS HAS CALLED A MEETING OF THE PORTUGUESE GROUP (WHICH CONSISTS OF SYG: DEPUTY SYG PANSAN; ASST. SYG KASTL; DIRECTEUR DU CABINET; VAN CAMPEN; DEP. CHAIRMAN MC; U.S., UK, ITALY, FRG AND BELGIUM) AT 1600, FRIDAY JUNE 27 TO EXAMINE PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN OPTION III DISCUSSIONS. IMPETUS FOR MEETING CAME FROM MC CHAIRMAN HILL-NORTON, WHO IS CONCERNED ABOUT SENSITIVE INFORMATION REACHING PORTUGAL THROUGH OPTION III DISCUSSION.

2. MISSION BELIEVES PROBLEM CAN BE HANDLED WITHOUT FURTHER FORMAL EXCLUSION OF PORTUGUESE FROM CONSULTATION PROCESS (PER REF A), THROUGH THE PRESENT EXCLUSION OF PORTUGAL FROM ACCESS TO ATOMAL AND COSMIC TOP SECRET MATERIAL, AND THROUGH ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENSITIVE ISSUES IN AN AD HOC BODY OF THE SPC SET UP FOR OPTION III MATTERS REQUIRING FURTHER ANALYSIS.

3. SPC CHAIRMAN (KASTL) HAD PREVIOUSLY INFORMALLY AGREED WITH  
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US TO CHANNEL DISCUSSION OF COSMIC TOP SECRET MATERIAL (E.G. SHAPE ASSESSMENT) AND OTHER SENSITIVE MATERIAL INTO A MORE RESTRICTED BODY THAN SPC (PER REF B). AT U.S.-UK-FRG EXPERTS TRILATERAL ON JUNE 24 (SEPTEL), UK REPS SAID THAT SENSITIVE

ISSUES SUCH AS IMPLICATIONS OF EXTENDING LIMITATIONS TO ALLIED NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT, WHICH COULD CONNOTE FALL-BACK POSITION, SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED IN SPC. THE GROUP TENTATIVELY AGREED TO PROPOSE THAT SPC ESTABLISH ON AD HOC BASIS AN OPEN-ENDED CAUCUS FOR OPTION III MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE DEVELOPMENT OF FURTHER ANALYSIS. SUCH AN AD HOC BODY IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR EXISTING GUIDANCE IN PARA 3, REF C, AND REF D. PORTUGAL, WHOSE SPC REP ONLY ATTENDED PART OF SPC OPTION III SESSION ON MORNING OF JUNE 23, AND DID NOT ATTEND JUNE 23 AFTERNOON SESSION OR JUNE 24 SESSION, IS UNLIKELY TO SEEK TO ATTEND OPEN-ENDED AD HOC BODY.

4. UNDER THE ABOVE PROCEDURE, PORTUGUESE DELEGATION WOULD OF COURSE HAVE ACCESS TO FINAL ALLIED POSITION ON OPTION III.

5. MISSION CONSIDERS THIS APPROACH CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING GUIDANCE ON PORTUGAL AND ON OPTION III. IF DEPARTMENT AGREES, THIS IS THE LINE WE SHALL TAKE AT PORTUGUESE GROUP MEETING ON JUNE 27. BRUCE

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